

III. Remarks

Consistent with the Examiner's request, 23 claims, 177-198, are now pending in the application. Applicant recognizes that multiple inventions are disclosed in the specification and reserves the right to continued prosecution of claims defining the other inventions in a continuation, division, continuation-in part or other application as may be appropriate.

The 23 pending claims are directed to a single invention related to secure, quality controlled transaction processing providing an audit trail and other useful features for security and clearing and settlement of documents imaged at a capture site.

As the invention is claimed, the system images a physical document and creates a digital representation which can be broken up into several elements or data files that are digitally signed and securely transmitted over a network wherein the elements can be reassembled in a manner such that the integrity of the original document captured can be guaranteed after reassembly. An audit chain for tracing routes in the transmission of, and access to, the document files is also provided.

Should the Examiner have any questions or suggestions in view of the foregoing, applicant's undersigned attorney requests that the Examiner initiate a telephone call to expedite prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,



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